

make our lives a success and reap a rich reward.

Such in deed and truth my friendly reader has been our condition. The curse of a broken law was hanging over us, and we were sold under sin and was entirely unable to redeem our souls, and in our helpless condition destruction seemed to be our portion; but a friend, the only able friend, sympathized for us and came to our rescue. Jesus, the Redeemer, paid the debt for us by giving himself as a sacrifice, to suffer and die on Mt. Calvary, to redeem our souls and condemn sin in the flesh, and gave us an example how to live in order to keep our title clear and left us commands to be obeyed in order to destroy the wicked principal of sin.

How is the matter with us? Are we loving and obeying this friend of ours as we should; are we living the life on which he promised eternal life; or are we taking another's advice in this matter and expecting eternal life by a more fashionable and easy way; do we step aside from the faith once delivered to the saints for fear of what man may say or do against us? If so I am afraid my dear reader that we are contracting a second debt, that in the end there will be no friend to redeem us and besides all of this we will lose our soul that Jesus redeemed for us.

Oh, what great risks men and women take upon themselves in this day and age of the world. Like Naaman, of old, who was told by the prophet of God to go and dip himself seven times in the river of Jordan and his leprosy should be healed, he was wrath at the plain and simple plan through which he was promised the cleansing of his leprosy and like people in this age of the world with the plan of salvation, he begins to frame some other plan out of the command of the prophet and says, "Are not Abana and Pharpar rivers of Damascus better than all the waters of Israel; may I not wash in them and be clean?" So it is in regard to baptism to-day; people will reason like Naaman and say is not sprinkling and pouring or single immersion better than going to the full extent of the command of the Lord? but, unlike Naaman, we see them carrying their notions into effect, but few there be when a servant reasons with them about the plans of salvation

will give up their own notions and go like Naaman of old and be washed in pure water, thus realizing that they have been bought with a price and desire not to become the servants of men, but to be born again not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible by the word of God.

N. D. WRIGHT.

Holbrook, W. Va.

#### OUR INDEBTEDNESS.

There has been considerable of valuable space taken in our paper, the EVANGELIST, the last year, in recounting the condition of our financial indebtedness in various directions: one of which was the publishing house debt.

No doubt many of you became tired of these statements and would not take them into consideration when you saw what the article contained; and perhaps now know but very little about the real financial condition of the church in general, and perhaps in your condition of comfortable surroundings, may day-dream that our church, school and publishing home have all the money they need, and that our officers have more than they need, and that if you should add any it would only be wasted. If you would only stop to consider the difference between the number of appeals and the number of responses published, you would surely know that still many hundred dollars are needed and that the way things are now, much money is wasted in paying interest and that which is invested cannot be made use of because they lack means to carry on the work and thus necessarily causing much waste of time and energy by those conducting them and the results are not encouraging to any one; all because necessary appeals are not heeded.

I believe that if every member in our Brotherhood or even a majority of them would give as much as they could, or according as God has prospered them, when they are called upon to do so, and not try to get out with giving as little as possible just so it will suffice; our church, school and all would immediately move forward at a running pace worthy of admiration instead of strangling and writhing in order to

keep from being crowded back and out.

But you say there are so many appeals we cannot contribute to all. There has been some not worthy of notice, such as the asking of outside assistance to purchase a Sunday school or church library or to assist in beautifying churches or individual interests, etc. Such appeals ought not to be made until every church in the Brotherhood has these fine fixtures and large libraries, then you have a right to ask them to help you to become likewise so fortunately situated.

But there are causes which demand your immediate help, such as our school, missions, etc.; and you cannot claim to have done your whole duty until you have given all you can to help them along.

But I do not wish to consume space for making an appeal, but wish to show that the brethren of Fair Haven church, O., are willing to aid the work and have contributed willingly *thirty-five* dollars for liquidating the publishing house debt. It was contributed as follows: B. F. Zercher, \$5.00; D. B. Good, \$5.00; John Feters; \$5.00; M. B. Painter, \$3.00; B. F. Swinehart, \$2.00; S. Thorley, \$2.00; Frank Zercher, \$2.00; Enoch Feters, \$2.00; J. A. Martin, \$1.00; Mrs. J. A. Martin, \$2.00; E. B. Beekley, \$1.00; D. N. Snyder, \$1.00; Ephraim Swinehart, \$1.00; P. Weiker, \$1.00; Mrs. D. J. Miller, \$1.00; Mrs. Ginter, \$50; Mr. Myers, \$50; Harvey Zercher, \$1.00; total; \$35.00.

This was not given without some sacrifice. The brethren at Fair Haven are in good condition, but not flattering. We have our church and property all well furnished and paid for, but are back some on our yearly expenses. But this can and will be easily made up when once all of us here learn that it is as much a part of the religion of Jesus Christ, *to give cheerfully*, as it is *to sing and pray loudly*.

And when once the Brethren church at large learn this, we will begin then to fulfill our part of God's mission for us and not until then.

ENOCH FETTERS.

Wooster, Ohio.

The best possible training is from the companionship of Jesus.